

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Final Office Action dated March 18, 2011 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Claim 1 is amended as supported by the present specification e.g., [0046] and figures, e.g., figs. 5 and 6. No new matter is added. Accordingly, claims 1, 4, 7, 11, 12, 15-22 and 23 are currently pending. Claims 1 and 15 are independent. Claims 15-22 of the pending claims are withdrawn.

Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1, 4, 7, 11-12 and 23 are rejected 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 6,331,384 to Satoi (hereinafter '**384**'), US Patent No. 6,176,667 to Fairbairn et al. (hereinafter '**667**') and US Patent No. 6,265,034 to Kagawa et al. (hereinafter '**034**').

The rejection of claims 1, 4, 7, 11-12 and 23 is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

The Present Invention and its Advantages

Claims 1, 4, 7, 11, 12 and 23 are allowable over the cited references individually or in combination in that **independent claim 1** recites at least a combination of elements including, for example, "a printing part including a printing process to form an alignment layer on a substrate, and including a print table fixing the substrate and at least one inkjet head to spray an alignment material onto an entire surface of the substrate including all pixel regions;" and "a transferring part having a transfer robot lifting the substrate to a higher height of the printing part in a vertical direction, for transferring the substrate from the printing part to the drying part and placing the substrate on the dry table after printing process." (emphasis added).

In particular, one embodiment of the claimed invention discloses that the at least one inkjet head 34 sprays the alignment material 20 onto the entire surface of the substrate which

includes all pixel regions, as shown in paragraph [0046] of the specification and FIG. 6, and that the transfer robot 52 lifts the substrate on which is printed the alignment material 20 by the printing part, to a higher height of the printing part in vertical direction, as illustrated on FIG. 5.

Distinctions Between the Present Invention and the Cited Art

However, the cited references including '384, '667 and '034, singly or in combination, fail to teach or suggest at least the feature of the claimed invention.

Specifically, in contrast to amended claim 1 of the present invention, '384 discloses "The apparatus 90 further includes R, G, B inkjet heads 55 for coloring the color filter 54", as described in col. 8, lines 34-35, and "A color filter 54 is disposed on the inner side of the other substrate 1 in such a manner that R, G, B colorants are arrayed at positions opposing the pixel electrodes.", as described in col. 6, lines 39-42. That is, '384 discloses that only one of the R, G, B inkjet heads 54 sprays the color ink material for forming the color filter which is respectively corresponding to the opposing the pixel electrodes, not corresponding to whole the pixel electrodes. In other words, it would not be expected that the R, G, B inkjet heads 54 of '384 spray an ink material to the entire surface of the substrate 1.

Further, in contrast to amended claim 1 of the present invention, '384 discloses "the robot 303a extracts the colored glass substrate from the coloring apparatus 90a and places it on the discharge conveyor 305a.", as described in col. 15, lines 63-35. That is, '384 discloses only the robot 303a transfers the colored glass substrate from coloring apparatus 90a to the discharge conveyor 305a, which is lower than the coloring apparatus 90a. In other words, it would not be expected that the robot 303a of '384 lifts the substrate to a higher height of the coloring apparatus 90a. Therefore, the transfer robot of claimed invention cannot be equated with the robot 303a of '384, even though the robot 303a of '384 transfers the substrate in vertical direction.

Furthermore, in contrast to amended claim 1 of the present invention, '667 and '034 also do not disclose or suggest any component corresponding to the at least one inkjet head and the transfer robot of the present invention, as the Examiner acknowledged on page 4-5 of the Final Office Action. Thus, the deficiencies of '384 cannot be cured by, '667 and '034.

As discussed above, the claimed invention is not obvious over the cited references singly or in combination. Accordingly, claim 1 and claims 4, 7, 11-12 and 23 which depend either directly or indirectly upon claims 1, are allowable over the cited art. In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

CONCLUSION

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejection and that they be withdrawn. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

In view of the above amendment, Applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

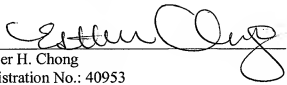
Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Kay Kyung-sook Chang, Registration No. 56946, at the telephone number of the undersigned below to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Director is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge any fees required during the pendency of the above-identified application or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448.

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Respectfully submitted,

By



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